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DATE:	December 20, 2002	FILE NO:	APPM/5320/DCVD/JW
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COMPANY: UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			
FROM:	Robb D. Edmonds	PAGE(S): with cover	16
MESSAGE:		Original to Follow	NO

OFFICIAL FAX**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 21, 2002**

Serial No.: 09/755,516
 Confirmation No.: 5078
 Filing Date: January 4, 2001
 Inventors: E. Schieve, et al.
 Examiner: K. Moore
 Group Art Unit: 1763

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PATENT

Atty. Dkt. No. APPM/5320/DCVD/JW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
E. Schieve

Serial No.: 09/755,516

Confirmation No.: 5078

Filed: January 4, 2001

For: Apparatus Having Platforms
Positioned For Precise
Centering of Semiconductor
Wafers During Processing

Group Art Unit: 1763

Examiner: K. Moore

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Dear Sir:

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I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the fax number indicated by the Examiner, namely, fax number 703/872-9311 to the attention of the named Examiner, on the date below.	
<u>12/20/02</u>	<u>Kelli D. Edmonds</u>
Date	Signature

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 21, 2002

In response to the Final Office Action dated October 21, 2002, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on January 21, 2003, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes that no fee is due in conjunction with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/APPM/5320/RDE, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows: